

JPW

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 04173.0446-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Kazutaka AKIYAMA)	Group Art Unit: 2826
)	
Application No.: 10/807,274)	Examiner: Leonardo ANDUJAR
)	
Filed: March 24, 2004)	
)	
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND)	Confirmation No.: 3986
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)	
MANUFACTURING METHOD)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT

In a species election requirement mailed on July 11, 2006, the Examiner required election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following allegedly patentably distinct species:

- A first embodiment, characterized by the Examiner as shown in "fig. 1" and relating to "dual damascene conductive pattern 24 and trenched dicing lines 17." Since the specification contains Figures 1A and 1B rather than Figure 1, Applicant assumes for present purposes that the Examiner intended "fig. 1" to refer to both Figures 1A and 1B;
- A second embodiment, characterized by the Examiner as shown in Figure 8 and relating to "single damascene conductive pattern 24 and trenched dicing lines 17." Although the Examiner specified "single damascene

conductive pattern "24," Figure 8 does not contain any reference number 24. Applicant assumes for present purposes that the Examiner intended to refer to reference number 34 shown in Figure 8; and

- A third embodiment, characterized by the Examiner as shown in Figure 10B and relating to "dual damascene conductive pattern 24 and non-trenched dicing lines 17."


Applicant elects to prosecute the first embodiment, on which claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15 are readable. Applicant makes this election without traverse.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 11, 2006

By: 
Reece Nienstadt
Reg. No. 52,072

RVB/RWN